



The Canal Zone Philatelist



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Whole No. 139

President's Report

Jim Crumpacker

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Las Vegas, NV 89125

Perhaps you noticed that the First Quarter, 2001 *CZP* inaugurated use of a different type size font, giving the periodical larger letters and thus an easier-to-read publication. This just one month after my purchase of the first pair of reading glasses I have ever needed. Do let the *CZP* Editor know what you think of the change.

CZSG received a mention in the Feb. 26, 2001 issue of *Stamp Collector* magazine as a philatelic organization with an active and interested membership, since one of our web sites was listed in that digest. Please join us on your home computer, or one
(continued on page 23)

COMING:

2001 CZSG Mail Sale

The 2001 CZSG Mail Sale Catalog will be in the mail by the end of August. The many interesting lots include Scott 1, 2, 3, 15, 23h, 32a, 32c, 33a, 38a, 39d, 47, 56a, 60b, 61a, mint and used Postal Stationery such as U2c, 1919 Christmas Card on UX4, UF1, Postal History and much more. There is something in this mail sale for everyone. If there are any questions regarding participation in the Mail Sale or a lot, contact David Leads at P.O. Box 491472, Los Angeles CA 90049. Phone or FAX: (310) 472-0282.

Special Meeting Notice

Plan to attend the CZSG Meeting at the APS show this August at the Donald E. Stevens Convention Center, 5555 North River Road, Rosemont, IL.

Guest speakers will be: Dick Bates, speaking on: "Identification of Canal Zone Stamps and Detection of Fakes" and Bob Karrer, topic to be announced.

The meeting will be held Saturday August 25th at 4:00pm. Room 31A. Call John C. Smith (847) 891-0277 for details.

CZ Officials O1 - O9, Spacing Variations

By Jim Crumpacker

Scott O1-O9, the Ordinary Official Stamps of the Canal Zone, are a fairly easy series to understand. Issued originally in 1944 as a replacement for the "perf. P" agglomeration (whose perfins were deemed difficult to detect), the intent of their usage was restricted to the Departments and Divisions of the Panama Canal and Panama Railroad for foreign mail.

This article deals with some previously unreported varieties from this series, specially the "last A of PANAMA under L of OFFICIAL: group. The Check List in *Canal Zone Stamps (CZS)* shows this alignment variety to be extant on two of these stamps, the 1¢ O1 and the 50¢ O7.

However, the "L over A" shift is also existent on O2, O4, O5, O6 and O9. The 5¢ O3 has the overprint in a dif-

ferent format and may thus be discounted and the Sept. 27, 1941 printing of the 50¢, which became Scott O8, has never been reported to have the variety in question.

The details of the various printings are described on pages 251-257 of *CZS*. It is believed that over the years, these stamps were printed (1941-1952), the printer set up four different forms of overprint plate to make the 19 recorded printings. *CZS* page 257 refers to the L over A variety as on position 32 of at least one of these printings (the A is directly under the middle of the horizontal bar of the L). As the selvages were removed from the panes prior to application of the overprint form, we are unlikely to ever learn much more about the printing(s).

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Recruit a New Member!

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**The Canal Zone
Philatelist**
A.P.S. Affiliate No. 42

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Display advertising accepted from CZSG members only at the following rates per insertion:

One column, two inches	\$10.00
One column, five inches	20.00
Two columns, five inches	35.00

No larger advertisements are accepted. Remittance must accompany copy. Deadline for ads, first day of Mar., June, Sept., Dec. Copy should be sent to the Editor.

Back issues of the journal, handbooks, and other publications can be ordered from Richard F. Murphy, 501 Rosebud Lane, Greer, SC 29650.

Articles and information for publication should be sent to the Editor. Glossy photographs are desirable for figures of stamps or covers; however, enlarged high quality photocopies are sometimes acceptable. Illustrations must show clearly against black backgrounds. If you need help, write, phone, or FAX the Editor. The author must advise the Editor if the article has been published or is being considered for publication elsewhere.

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Canal Zone Study Group

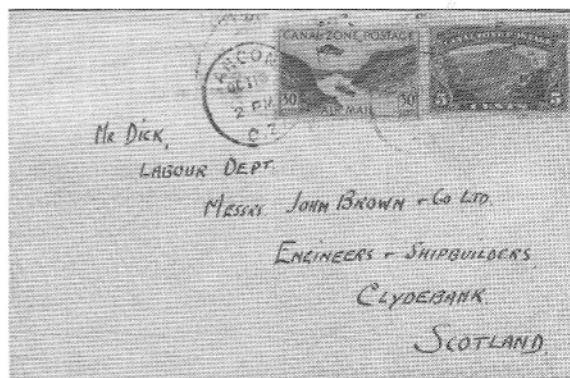
Short Lived Airmail Rate to Europe

The cover shown was postmarked in Ancon on October 16, 1946 and correctly pays the 35¢ combination airmail rate for a half ounce letter from the Canal Zone to the U.S. and the trans-Atlantic airmail rate from the U.S. to Europe. This rate was in effect for only 30 days in 1946. The 5¢ per ounce airmail rate to the U.S. became effective on October 1, 1946. At that time, the trans-Atlantic airmail rate was 30¢ per half ounce. On November 1, 1946, the trans-Atlantic airmail rate was reduced to 15¢ per half ounce, reducing the combination rate for half-ounce letters to 20¢.

by: **Paul Ammons**

Decreased Members

0176 Clayton R. Call



AUCTIONS

by Jim Crumpacker

A considerable depth of First Series stamps plus some scarcer plate blocks highlighted the first quarter, Jan. 1-Mar. 31, 2001. Otherwise the offerings were a bit below average both in quantity and quality.

Shown below are results from the winter's public auctions. The price paid, hammer plus commission, is shown first with the catalog value (2001 Scott's Specialized) next in parenthesis.

- 1, TG, HR, F \$413 (\$550) Bennett
- 1, used, F \$358 (\$425) Bennett
- 1, block of 4, TG, HR, VG-F+ \$1760 (\$2500) Bennett
- 1 var., PANAMA's 15mm long, dist. part OG, H, nat. s.e., F \$138 (\$600) Ivy & Mader
- 1, F on VF ppc Bohio 6/30/04 to Colon \$1375 (\$1650) Bennett
- 1, 2, 3 all F-VF on a VF cover Ancon 7/14/04 to Panama \$484 (\$n/a) Kelleher
- 2, used strip of 3, F+ to VF \$385 (\$525) Bennett
- 3, TG, HR, F \$264 (\$375) Bennett
- 3, TG, H, F-VF \$242 (\$375) Ivy & Mader
- 3, used, VF \$242 (\$225) Bennett
- 32c, booklet pane of 6, TG, couple rows of perfs cut by knife, H, F \$352 (\$750) Kelleher
- 56b, double overprint, one reading down, glazed OG, H, barely F \$322 (\$650) Ivy & Mader
- 64, VF on F+ cover (OB env.) 11/16/21 Regist. to US \$127 (\$175) Phillips
- 67a, ZONE CANAL reading down, OG, H, VG \$299 (\$850) Ivy & Mader
- 71b, ZONE inverted, F on U6 env. Cristobal 10/27/25, VF \$605 (\$n/a) Siegel
- 71d, ZONE CANAL, TG, H, nat. s.e., F \$209 (\$450) Kelleher
- 74, pl. bl. of 6, #15148-B, OG, H, couple seps. o/w VF \$276 (\$325) Ivy & Mader
- 76, pl. bl. of 6, #14405-B, OG, H, VF \$265 (\$550) Ivy & Mader

- 81, pl. bl. of 6, #14268-T, OG (couple nat. gum creases), H, F-VF \$4025 (\$4250) Ivy & Mader
- 84, pl. bl. of 6 #17890-UR w/ 5 pointed star, dist. OG, H, crease affects 2, o/w F \$489 (\$1750) Regency
- 87, pl. bl. of 6, #16376-B, OG, H, VF \$276 (\$500) Ivy & Mader
- 87, pl. bl. of 6, #16377-B, OG, H, VF \$403 (\$500) Ivy & Mader
- 94, OG, H, VF \$161 (\$200) Regency
- 95, pl. bl. of 6, #14268-B, OG, H, F \$1725 (\$2000) Ivy & Mader
- C25a, horiz, pair, imperf, vert., OG, NH, diag. crease as often, sl. wrinkles, o/w F+ \$546 (\$1000) Ivy & Mader
- J3, OG, H, F+ \$661 (\$600) Regency
- J14, bl. of 4 w/ 3mm horiz, spacing (CZSG J14.2), sl. dist. OG, one perf. indentation, NH, F \$489 (\$1250) Ivy & Mader
- O8, used, CTO as always, barely F \$322 (\$625) Ivy & Mader
- UX1d (S2) w/ #22 added, F+ w/ some edge wear, used Ancon 8/20/08 to Germany \$264 (\$200) Bennett
- UX5 (S12), VF+, used Balb. Hts. 7/1/22 \$385 (\$450) Bennett
- UX6 (S13) VF mint entire \$688 (\$725) Bennett

The names and addresses of the auctions houses are shown below. Please mention *CZP* should you request a catalog from any.

- Matthew Bennett, Inc.
601 Washington Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21204
- Ivy and Mader Auction Galleries
775 Passaic Ave.
West Caldwell, NJ 07006
- Daniel F. Kelleher Co., Inc.
24 Farnsworth St., Suite #605
Boston, MA. 02210
- David G. Phillips Co., Inc.
North Miami, FL 33261
Regency Stamps, Ltd.
- Le Chateau Village #106
10411 Clayton Road
St. Louis, MO 63131-2911
- Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries
Park Avenue Tower, 17th Floor
65 East 55th Street
New York, NY 10022

Exhibit Review

CZSG Member Dickson Preston won a Silver medal at WESTPEX in San Francisco this April for his "Canal Zone Permanent Issue Rates and Uses, 1928-1979." Through more than 180 covers and cards, the exhibit shows a wide range of CZ issues used to pay many postal rates and fees. This was the first time this exhibit has been shown.

Some of the highlights of the exhibit were:

- 1) A handsome cover bearing six copies of C17, the 15 cent airmail, paying a double rate to England in 1940.
- 2) U11 uprated with #105 paying the 3 cent surface letter rate to Argentina in 1932. This rate applied to member countries of the Postal Union of the Americas and Spain from 1932 to 1953.
- 3) Another U11 paying the 2 cent drop letter rate in 1955.
- 4) 16 cents postage on a card to Libya in 1956. This rate is seen occasionally and consistently to Europe but North Africa is an unusual destination.
- 5) C39, the 20 cent airmail, paying the insurance fee on a 1965 cover. Higher denominations of this 50th anniversary set are difficult to find on commercial covers, and this is a particularly outstanding usage.
- 6) 18 cents postage paying the surface rate to Bahrain in 1976. CZ surface mail to foreign destinations are infrequently seen on covers this late.
- 7) C51, the 22 cent airmail, paying the foreign postcard rate to Argentina in 1977.

The exhibit emphasizes the various uses of Canal Zone issues, frequently showing more than one cover with same rate but paid with different combinations of stamps and/or postal stationery. Included are many examples of later CZ postal stationery, in many cases uprated because of rate increases. The various registration fees are very strongly presented, especially those from the 1970s.

Tom Brougham

U9 Corner Cards By Irwin J. Gibbs Postal Stationery Editor

U8 and U9 the Seal Type Postal Stationery replaced the previous United States envelopes overprinted Canal Zone because the U.S. envelopes had gummed flaps and were found unsuitable for use in the humid climate of the Canal Zone.

There was a total of 1,069,736 of the 2¢ size 6 plain envelope printed by the Canal Zone Press, Mount Hope, Canal Zone, between October, 1924 and February 1932.

Five additional printings were made with blank Request Corner Cards starting in October 1924 with the last printing in July 1926. Various named Post Office Request envelopes were printed starting in June 1925. The return request envelopes were discontinued July 1, 1929. The last printing of this item occurred in May 1928.

A total of 137,000 Blank Request and 437,373 of the Post Office Request envelopes were printed. Three different Knives have been identified as described in the UPSS listing, they are P-2, P-3 and P-4; UPSS numbers 10, 11 and 12.

Print Date

October 1924
January 1925
June 1925
January 1926
July 1926
March 1927
November 1927
May 1928
TOTAL

PRINTINGS:

Blank Request

20,000
25,000
17,000
25,000
50,000

137,000

Post Office

Request (various)

83,000
47,000
103,000
32,000
77,000
95,000
437,373

Listed below are the Earliest Reported Use dates for these envelopes. It would appear that additional earlier use dates might exist. New information would be appreciated. Please contact the Editor.

Earliest Reported Dates of U9 Post Office Request Envelopes

Knives:	P2	P3	P4
General Request	Jan. 7, 1925	May 7, 1925	Oct. 16, 1924
Ancon	Oct. 27, 1925	May 27, 1925	Jan. 3, 1928
Balboa	Mar. 13, 1926	Mint Only	Nov. 6, 1926
Balboa Heights	Jan. 4, 1927	Nov. 23, 1925	Mar. 8, 1926
Coco Solo		Apr. 19, 1926	Jan. 22, 1929
Corozal	Mar. 11, 1929	Jul. 19, 1926	Jun. 18, 1926
Cristobal	Oct. 11, 1924	Jan. 15, 1926	Sep. 4, 1926
Culebra		Jun. 26, 1926	
Fort Clayton	Nov. 18, 1924	Jan. 1, 1928	
Fort Sherman		May 5, 1926	Aug. 4, 1926
France Field	Jun. 6, 1928	Jun. 11, 1926	Mint Only
Gatun	May 17, 1928	Dec. 18, 1925	Oct. 23, 1926
Pedro Miguel	May 6, 1928	Mar. 10, 1926	Sep. 20, 1926

References:

C.A. Seward, "The Seal Type Postal Stationery of the Canal Zone", Sep. 12, 1936, *Weekly Philatelic Gossip*.
Blessington, John J. and Rick Schwartz, Editors, 1985, *The Postal Stationery of the Canal Zone*, United Postal Stationery Society.

COMING:

The Panama Canal Story

By Raymond W. Ireson

With the 3rd quarter *Philatelist*, the Canal Zone Study Group (CZSG) will distribute a copy of Raymond Ireson's exhibit: "The Panama Canal Story" on CD. The work is a highly acclaimed 8-frame philatelic exhibit. It spans the history of the Isthmus of Panama from the time of early explorations through the conception and construction of the Panama Canal, up to 1979 when the Panamanians regained full sovereignty. The exhibit has won 15 national and international awards in the past 10 years, including nine Gold Medals and four Best in Show awards. The edition illustrated on the CD is the June 2000 version, which was displayed in the Court of Honor at the APS STAMPSHOW 2000 in Providence RI.

This publication by the CZSG is a radical departure from the norm.

CZSG publications are usually in philatelic handbook format and restricted to Canal Zone stamps. The other novel feature is that this is the first CZSG publication on a CD. This new medium permits high-resolution color images of entire pages and allows viewing of part of any page - stamp, cover, signatures, etc. in detail. From the Index, clicking on individual pages immediately accesses them. On each open page, the viewer can click forward, back, or return to the index, as well as click to an enlarged image.

The exhibit includes over 20 rare philatelic materials, including die proofs, specimens, rare letters from the 1840s-60s, and other items. Included is a balloon post letter sent by De Lesseps during a siege of Paris by the Prussians in 1870. It is sprinkled throughout with little-known interesting tidbits about people and places. For example, it is well known that Gauguin lived on Taboga Island, but

not that he worked on the canal. Johann W. von Goethe, the German poet and dramatist, expressed a prophetic opinion in 1827 that the United States would be involved. Also, nearly lost in the many tributes to the "opening" of the Panama Canal with the first commercial transit in 1914, is the fact that the formal proclamation of the opening was not declared until July 12, 1920 by President Wilson.

We are grateful to Raymond Ireson for allowing us access to his valuable exhibit in order to scan its pages. We are indebted to Joe Kirkup for scanning, formatting and preparing the CD that will be usable on both PC and MacIntosh computers.

It is our fervent hope that people will find this an exciting way to view the material, and that they will learn much about the history of the Canal Zone and Panama from the philatelic evolution from stampless covers to modern stamps.

Alan P. Bentz

First Official Flight was not the First!

By David Allen

Back in 1930 Arthur J. Barker wrote a letter to his friend Fred S. Hammann, in Audubon, New Jersey, prior to the inauguration of a new air-mail route from Cristobal, Canal Zone, to La Guaira, Venezuela.

Information regarding early flights is often sparsely recorded but when first flight covers can be found complete with the letter enclosed, it can reveal some interesting additional facts.

It obviously came as a surprise when the 'Airways Company' authorised an unannounced flight to Colombia on October 3rd, 1930, which carried only 68 covers, and then had to make the December flight to Colombia an "Official" flight to compensate.

The letter shown here, found in a cover from the above flight, puts some of the detail on to an otherwise skeleton of information:

From the letter it confirms Gerald Bliss's involvement in most things philatelic during his period in the Zone; and Hammann and Barker were providing each other with first flight covers whenever possible.

From the cover illustrated it can be seen that Gerald Bliss signed the cover and also arranged for the signature of the pilot, C. R. Parmalee.

This is one of two different flight covers I bought at a small stamp fair in Surrey, England, about three years ago. This flight is listed in my references to flights from the Canal Zone but the letter provides much more background history.

The overwhelming question which troubles me is whether any of the other three covers sent by Barker to Hammann ever arrived and, if so, are they in the hands of today's Canal Zone collectors?

I am sure the Editor would be pleased to hear from any CZSG member if they know of the existence of any others from this correspondence.

My e-mail address is:

david@canal29.fsnet.co.uk



"OFFICIAL FLIGHT" cover, Cristobal to La Guaira, Venezuela, with signatures of pilot and G. Bliss, Cristobal PM.

Balboa Heights,
December 1, 1930.

Dear Fred [Hammann]:

Your letter of November 25th was received this morning, and I shall be on the look out for the covers via Cienfuegos, Cuba, and Kingston, Jamaica, on the first flight over the re-routing of F.A.M. 5. Before you receive this letter (if you ever do), you will undoubtedly have received the covers which I am despatching over the new route from Cristobal December 3d.

The U.S. postal dope on the new route from Cristobal to La Guaira, Venezuela, is somewhat off. This is the new route which you mentioned in your letter a short while ago, the first flight of which carried only 68 covers. Bro. Bliss (our Cristobal Postmaster) told me this morning that the Airways Company changed the route of their own volition and without prior notice, which accounts for the very few first covers, so that the mail went to La Guaira instead of Puerto Cabello, on October 3d, 1930.

It seems that the Washington authorities have just heard of the "proposed" change and have issued bulletins that it will take effect from Cristobal on December 4th. In order to conform with the information issued from Washington, a special cachet is to be used on all mail leaving Cristobal for La Guaira on December 4th, but instead of stating it is the first flight, the cachet is to show it to be the first OFFICIAL flight.

This letter, with three duplicates, is going forward in four covers addressed to you by the first official flight from Cristobal to La Guaira, Venezuela, and I am hoping all of them will reach you. Bliss will see that the envelopes are autographed by the pilot and that they are properly stamped at Cristobal (5 A.M. Dec. 4, 1930) and despatched on the new route. What the postmaster at La Guaira will do with or to them, he cannot foretell, but he and I are hoping he will forward them to you, probably by ordinary mail. We don't care how he sends them, though, just so long as they eventually reach you.

If all of them come through to you, would appreciate your sending two of them back to me; if three get thru, you keep two of them; if two get thru, send me only one, and if only one gets thru, keep it.

Here's hoping. Kindest regards and best wishes.

As ever,
Art [Barker]

CZ Officials Spacing Variations

Continued from page 13

Figure 1, which is just a copy of O4 with the color washed out, shows the "normal" positioning of the overprint for O1, O2, O4-O7 and O9. Note not only the position of the L to the A but also the relationship of the second I of OFFICIAL to the M of PANAMA. In the latter case, the I, if projected downward, would skim the right side of the left vertical stroke of the M in PANAMA.

Figure 2 is the O1, O2, O4, O5, O7 and O9 "L over A" group. I have seen a 20¢ O6 "L over A" but do not possess a photocopy.

In Fig. 3, are an O1 and two copies of O5 where the overprint is somewhat shifted, these are neither in the normal position nor are they "L over A", look again at the second I of OFFICIAL and it's alignment to the M of PANAMA. In both cases the I projected down would run right over the left vertical strike of the M in PANAMA and not graze either the left or right side of it. Should these be listed as a separate variety? We are probably talking about a 0.05mm shift in position. The 15¢ O5 in Fig. 2, has an overprint that is a little blobby, the last A of PANAMA really isn't quite under the middle of the horizontal bar of the L and the second I of OFFICIAL might be only 0.025mm out of place, A third variety?

Should any of you possess a copy of O6 with any type of shifted overprint, please send a clear photocopy of same to the Editor.

In the fullness of time, the additional "L over A" discoveries many have their own CZSG minor numbers. Keep your eyes open and a 10x loop handy.

Winner:

WESTPEX 2001, April 27, 2001
San Francisco CA. Silver Medal and **COLOMPHIL Award** for outstanding Research and Investigation of South and Central American Philately, to: **Dickson Preston**, "Canal Zone Permanent Issue Rates and Usages 1928-1979".

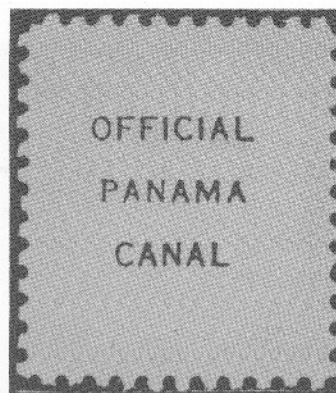


Fig. 1. CZ O4 (lighten) showing "normal" L/A orientation.



Fig. 2. CZ O1, O4, O5, O7, O9 with L over A.



Fig. 3. CZ O1 and O5 with "somewhat shifted" OP.

How Many C7-C14 Were Really Issued – Revisited

By: Paul Ammons

In a previous article (CZP 132:31) I stated that the generally accepted quantities issued for Scott C7-C14 were most likely overstated by the number of stamps requisitioned from Canal Zone Postal Service (CZPS) stock and perforated 'P' or overprinted for use as official air mail stamps, CO1-CO12, and CO14. That article referenced a chart from page 248 of *Canal Zone Postage Stamps*, the 1961 CZPS publication often referred to as the Tatelman book. I believe that chart contains a mathematical error with respect to quantities of Scott C10, the 15¢ value of the second (first definitive) air mail series.

The U. S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) used 200-subject plates to print the stamps from this series. Each sheet was, in turn, divided into four 50-subject post office panes. As a normal printing practice,

the BEP would have printed more stamps than required for each shipment. The difference between quantity printed and quantity shipped often being referred to as surplus.

However, as shown in the accompanying expanded version of the Tatelman chart, if the sheet impression numbers are correct, the BEP only printed 11,135,200 C10 stamps (total sheet impressions x 200), but shipped 11,961,500 stamps to the CZPS. There is a significant difference - 826,300 stamps, (6.9%) less than the stamps generally reported as received by the CZPS.

Basically, either the number of impressions of the second and third plates used for C10 are incorrect, or less likely, the quantity of stamps received by the CZPS as published in numerous catalogs and publications has long been overstated. What is needed to resolve this discrepancy is either corroboration / correction of the plate impression numbers or verification of shipment receipt dates and quantities.

C7 - C17 Printing History

Scott No.	Face Value	Plate No.	Reported Total Plate Impressions	Computed Total Stamps Printed	Reported Total Stamps Shipped	Computed Excess Stamps Printed*
C6	4¢	160314	3,028	605,000	525,000	80,000
C7	5¢	123578	42,140	8,428,000		
		159148	17,530	3,506,000		
		total		11,934,000	9,988,500	1,945,500
C8	6¢	158092	24,144	4,828,800		
		160287	9,144	1,828,800		
		160288	9,144	1,828,800		
		160289	9,144	1,828,800		
		total		10,315,200	9,440,000	875,200
C9	10¢	123575	27,023	5,404,600	5,140,000	264,600
C10	15¢	123576	46,166	9,233,200		
		147635	4,755	951,000		
		147636	4,755	951,000		
		total		11,135,200	11,961,500	(826,300)
C11	20¢	123577	19,438	3,887,600	3,214,600	673,000
C12	30¢	146729	6,988	1,397,600	1,150,000	247,600
C13	40¢	123578	4,900	980,000	826,100	153,900
C14	\$1	123579	2,700	540,000	406,000	134,000

* Used for perforated 'P' or overprinted for use as official air mail stamps, CO1-CO12, and CO14.

WESTPEX Meeting Report

Seventeen members or guests were present for our CZSG Regional get-together at WESTPEX in San Francisco on April 28, 2001.

What to do for the members in order to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the 1952 founding of CZSG was a main topic; no decisions were made.

The status of our various "publications in progress" was discussed with special attention to the UPSS catalog dealing with Canal Zone postal stationery.

A compilation of the known mixed frankings of Scott 1, 2, or 3 on cover was given to each attendee. The 2001 Mail Sale subject came up, it looks like a fat auction with over 900 lots sent in to David Leeds. A brief report was presented on fakes on overprinted U.S. stamps. An exposition on APO's and the provisional censor markings of the WWII era was very interesting.

Show 'n Tell was fun, with our local experts on CZ postal rates making an exceptional showing of postal history.

Someone signed us up for 1 1/2 hours instead of an hour and must have known something; the session ran its full scheduled limit

Jim Crumpacker

We Need Authors!

DID YOU KNOW

During the Canal Zone Postal Service history it issued 44 various United States stamps to be used with Canal Zone overprints. It also issued 78 Panamanian stamps with Canal Zone overprints. In many of these stamps the only difference was in the overprinted Canal Zone font and/or style. Then in 1928 the CZPS created a permanent series. From that time on (with a few exceptions), the CZPS designed and had printed its own postage stamps and stationery until it's closing in 1979.

Fake Overprints on Canal Zone Stamps Second Series - Scott Numbers 4-8 Part III

By Richard D. Bates, Jr.

Part I of the first article on fake overprints on Canal Zone stamps (CZP 136:27-29) identified different characteristics that can be used to differentiate genuine overprints from those that are fakes. Part II (CZP 137:40-41) used those characteristics to examine several additional examples of fakes.

Part III of this article will examine closely examples for which the shape of individual letters provides the primary clue to determine whether the overprint is or is not genuine. This type of close examination generally requires a good magnifying glass, and complements measurements of the height of the letters, and the length of and spacing between the words that makeup the overprint.

The focus will be on the letters that make up the end of the word CANAL and the beginning of the word ZONE, though similar signs can be found in other parts of the overprint.

To start, examine the characteristics of a good overprint, such as that shown in Fig. 1,a. First, focus on the feet of the letters N, A, and L. The foot on the bottom right of the second A in CANAL almost touches the bottom left serif on the L. In contrast there is significant space between the foot on the bottom left of the same A and the bottom right of the N, due in part to the absence of a serif on the bottom right of the N. But the gap is quite pronounced, and it almost looks as if the A is too close to the L and too far from the N. This is significant because the fakes often do not seem to get this right. Compare for example the bad overprints given in Figs. 1b and 1d and 1i. Additionally, the letter A should be flat at the top, and no taller than the N. It is pointed in Figs. 1b, 1e, 1j, and 1k, and too tall in Figs. 1b and 1j.



Fig. 1. CZ Scott 4-8 with fake / genuine overprints.

(Continued on next page)

Second, examine the lower right serifs of the letters L and Z in Fig 1a. The right side edge of these letters is almost exactly vertical on the genuine overprints, and the serif extends significantly vertically. Moreover, the inner edge joining the horizontal part at the bottom of the letter with the vertical serif exists as a nice smooth curve. On the fake shown in Fig. 1c, the serif looks stubby, and the transition from the horizontal part to the serif is too abrupt. In Fig. 1f, the serif is much too short.

Third, examine the letter Z. On the genuine overprint, the lower left corner sticks out slightly to the left of the vertical line of the leading edge of the top left serif, and the upper right corner protrudes slightly beyond the vertical line of the bottom right serif. This rule breaks down with broken letters, and is not so evident when the tip of the Z looks rounded,

such as when the overprint is very heavy. But it clearly is not the case in Fig. 1f. It is also good to notice how closely the tip and bottom of the Z come to the letter O at the point of closest approach. The spacing should be close to the same, but at the bottom is always slightly smaller than that at the top in the genuine overprint. This is a rather complicated statement for a simple concept, to be sure, but the fakes do not usually get this right, so it is a key to differentiating between good and bad overprints. Examining the bad overprints in the figure we see that the ZO is often not quite right. In Fig. 1b they are too far apart, as they are in Figs. 1f and 1i.

Fourth, the proportions in the letter L are wrong in nearly every fake overprint illustrated, as is generally true. Some fakes are too tall for the length of the horizontal part at the

bottom of the letter, clearly the case in Figs. 1e and 1h. They should be roughly the same to the eye with the aid of a magnifying glass, but without the need to make measurements. Finally the top of the L, is much too small on many of the fakes as seen on Figs. 1d, 1e, 1f, 1h, 1i, and 1k. Given that the L is too far from the A that precedes it on Fig. 1b, and is shorter than the preceding A on Fig. 1b, some characteristics involving the letter L distinguish each of the illustrated examples from Fig. 1a, except for Fig. 1g. That is because Fig. 1g is genuine because all the characteristics are correct despite the messed up N. And that broken letter plates correctly. Thus, after getting a general impression, examination of the letter L in an overprint on Scott #4-8 is a useful step for detecting fakes on this series.

Book Review:

A PHILATELIC BIBLIOGRAPHY for COLOMBIA and PANAMA, 1865-1999

By: Robert L. Mitchell, Jr. and
Robert A. D'Elia

Recently published by COPAPHIL, the Colombia-Panama Philatelic Study Group, an affiliate of the American Philatelic Society, this book comprises the most extensive bibliography ever produced for a single area of Latin America and perhaps the World. The publication contains over 7000 citations and includes the vast majority of the worldwide philatelic literature pertaining to these countries. It draws upon over 400 publications, in more than ten languages. This book is the result of over fifteen years of work by the authors, with the assistance of leading philatelists, specializing in these countries. Incorporated in it are references from some of the leading philatelic libraries in the United States, namely, the American Philatelic Research Library, the Collectors Club of New York Library and the Western Philatelic Library.

In addition, it draws upon the resources of the COPAPHIL Library and the personal libraries of many of its members.

The bibliography is divided between Colombia and Panama. The former also includes those references from the period when Panama was part of Colombia. The latter includes these references, as well as those for Panama after its independence. To assist in finding specific references, the periodical bibliographies are further broken down by time periods for both regular and airmail issues. There are also sections covering postal history and postal markings and various specialized stamp categories, such as stamps for special services; revenue and telegraph stamps; postal stationery; proofs and essays; forgeries and reprints; postal laws and decrees; state and department issues, and others. A section covering the SCADTA airmail service in Ecuador is also included. In addition to the periodical references, there are also extensive Monograph Bibliographies, containing the major philatelic books published, concerning both Colombia and Panama, as well as other general references of interest to col-

lectors of these areas. The references within each major section are listed by author, followed by the title of the article or work, the periodical or publisher, the page references, and other pertinent data. This allows the researcher to clearly identify each reference. There is also a column indicating whether the reference is available from the COPAPHIL Library.

The book consists of 134 pages, with introductory information and tables of contents for each section in both English and Spanish. It is comb bound with heavy stock covers for long term use. The book was printed in an initial printing of 200 copies. Each purchaser of the bibliography is entitled to a free, one year membership in COPAPHIL, the Colombia-Panama Philatelic Study Group which includes four issues of their publication, *COPACARTA*.

The bibliography can be obtained from the COPAPHIL Library c/o Robert A. D'Elia at 1290 Howard Avenue, Suite 321, Burlingame, CA 94010, U.S.A. for \$26.75, post paid by surface mail in the U.S.; \$29.00 by surface mail to Canada, and \$36.00 for air mail shipment, or \$31.00 by surface mail, to the Rest of the World.

CANAL ZONE STUDY GROUP

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR 2000

Revenue: Dues earned	\$8,895
Sales: Publications (including book - \$182)	353
Advertising - CZP	335
	9,583
Interest on checking (NOW) account	3,066
Mail Sale proceeds (Note)	956
Adjustment of a previous mail sale	1,716
Total revenue	15,321
Expenses: CZP printing (3 issues), postage, editorial	5,739
CZSG website	80
Membership, publicity, administration	923
Advertisements - Scott, AP	424
Total expenses	7,226

Note: Mail sale results:

Lots sold	\$ 34,752
Less payment to sellers	(31,277)
Net (10%) to CZSG	3,475
Other income	19
Total income	3,494
Expenses: Printing	\$ 927
Postage	1,203
Insurance	205
Supplies	203
Total:	(2,538)
Net proceeds to CZSG	\$ 956

Revenue over expenses for the year	8,095
Net assets as of:	
1 January 2000	92,029
31 December: Cash in NOW account	\$ 107,979
Less dues received in advance	(7,855)
	\$ 100,124

As of December 31, there were no outstanding unrecorded bills.
Dues are reported as income in the year to which they relate.
Proceeds from the mail sale are reported as income in the year the sale is held

Richard F. Larkin, Treasurer

United States Postal Service

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

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NONE			
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<input type="checkbox"/> Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months			
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13. Publication Title The Canal Zone Philatelist	14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below 6/21/00
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)	1,000
b. Paid and/or Requested Circulation	725
(1) Paid in-County Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 (Include advertiser's proof and exchange copies)	5
(2) Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Non-USPS Paid Distribution	0
(3) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS	39
c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation (Sum of 15b, (1), (2), (3), and (4))	725
d. Free Distribution by Mail (Sample, complimentary, and other free)	15
(1) Outside-County as Stated on Form 3541	1
(2) In-County as Stated on Form 3541	1
(3) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS	0
e. Free Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	0
f. Total Free Distribution (Sum of 15d and 15e)	15
g. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15f)	740
h. Copies not Distributed	260
i. Total (Sum of 15g and 15h)	1,000
j. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation (15c divided by 15g, times 100)	72.5%
16. Publication of Statement of Ownership (15c divided by 15g, times 100)	
Publication required. Will be printed in the 4th Qtr., 2000 issue of this publication. <input type="checkbox"/> Publication not required.	
17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner	
Signature: [Signature] Date: 9/27/00	
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- If the publication had Periodicals authorization as a general or requester publication, this Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation must be published; it must be printed in any issue in October or, if the publication is not published during October, the first issue printed after October.
- In item 16, indicate the date of the issue in which this Statement of Ownership will be published.
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PS Form 3526, October 1999 (Reverse)

CZSG MEETING AT PHILATELIC SHOW 2001 Boxborough MA (May 5, 2001)

A CZSG regional meeting was held at Philatelic Show 2001 attended by only six people. It was, however, one of the liveliest and best meetings held in terms of exchange of information, and would have continued much longer if the room had been available.

George McHugh gave a slide show on early Canal Zone stamps, showing clearly the distinctions to be made on #11-15 and 18-20. He showed a "fake" #15 he had picked up at the show in '98 labeled as #19. He also showed a new variant of the series in which the "C" of the Canal Zone appeared as an "O", it was brought to his attention by one of his club members Shaun Malloy. McHugh has been evolving a detailed set of Canal Zone album pages. Hugh Goldberg of SUBWAY Stamp Shop, approached us about the possibility of printing album pages. We had little time to discuss his offer, but it is something that should be considered.

Armand Cote gave a talk on F.A.M.

5-2 (Lindbergh flight from Cristobal to Miami) discussing all the postmarks (times and dates) that were known for flown covers. Myths concerning the "Outlaw Flight" (so-dubbed by George T. Street) were dispelled by a copy of the Waybill signed by Lindbergh for 14 sacks of mail for the two Sikorsky aircraft (NC 8000 and NC 8044) flown by Lindbergh and Merritt, respectively.

As time ran out, several others gave very brief showings of things of interest. Bill Fall had a notebook full of his cacheted FDCs – all with Canal Zone theme tied to whatever stamp was being issued. He also had with him a book he had written for his children. It was titled "The Panama Canal – Stamps, Postcards and Photos", and consisted of 100 fascinating pages. Each page was a self-contained topic about various towns, features of the canal, the living conditions, labor force, buildings, postal service, people, flora and fauna, construction

history, etc.

Dave Smith had his new one-frame exhibit entitled "Canal Zone Overprints (1906-1921)". Various types are shown on cover including stamp issues of the 5th, 6th, and 7th series that were overprinted with five different font styles. He received a vermeil at the RIPS show in March with this exhibit, and expects to expand it to two frames for next year's Boxboro show.

Alan Bentz mentioned the monograph he and David Leeds were writing on the Panama Line, and solicited input from anyone who might have material on the subject.

We look forward to an even larger meeting at PHILATELIC SHOW 2002 at Boxboro, where we would like to fill 100 frames with Canal Zone exhibits. Armand Cote, Dave Smith and Alan Bentz are planning to exhibit at the show, and we hope many others will join us.

Alan Bentz

President's Report

continued from page 13

at the local library; peck out: www.czsg.org for the Cover of the Month feature and latest information.

My personal nod and thanks to Peter Copeskey, our new Business Manager. As an all-volunteer organization, we appreciate those who are willing to work.

We are attempting to form a Nominating Committee of prominent members to coordinate election details and select potential candidacies for CZSG Officers and Board of Directors to serve for the two-year term Jan. 1, 2002 - Dec. 31, 2003.

The annual CZSG Mail Sale, scheduled for September, is filling up nicely and looks to have more and better material than has been the case for the last couple of years.

The 50th anniversary of the formation of the Canal Zone Study Group is coming up next year. We remain an active and vigorous group and will use our considerable resources to provide the membership with quality publications for the jubilee.

Dwight D. Eisenhower, (Pre-Presidency)

Canal Zone Covers

By Julius Grigore, Jr.

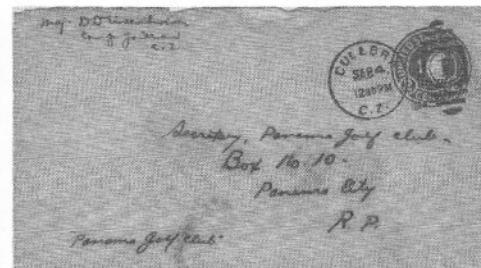
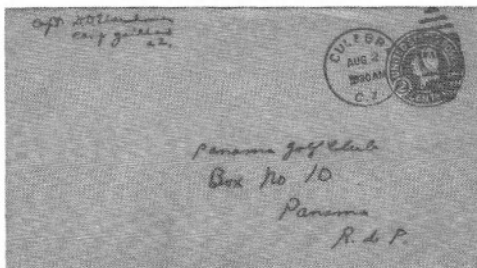
Illustrated are two Canal Zone U7 covers signed in the corner card portion by Dwight D. Eisenhower, well before he served in World War II as Supreme Commander, Allied Forces, Europe, and long before he became President of the United States.

Eisenhower addressed the first on August 2, 1924, while he served as a Captain, U.S. Army, stationed at Camp Gaillard. The other was mailed a month latter, on September 4, 1924, after he

was promoted to the rank of Major. Both covers were serviced by the post office at Culebra, and each was addressed to the prestigious Panama Golf Club in Panama City, Republic of Panama. Apparently, Eisenhower was a member of the club and was paying his monthly dues.

Obviously, Eisenhower's passion for the game of golf existed well before his Presidency.

(Other than first day of issue, is there any U7 reported used earlier than August 2, 1924?)



Dwight D. Eisenhower CZ covers while stationed at Camp Gaillard.

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